

TUES 4TH APR 78 V LEYTONSTONE (IL) AWAY LOST 0-2

STONES GIVE BLUES THE OLD ONE-TWO

LEYTONSTONE 2, WYCOMBE WANDERERS 0

LEYTONSTONE, struggling desperately for points among the relegation candidates in the Premier Division of the Isthmian League did themselves a power of good at Granleigh Road with a workmanlike performance against Wycombe Wanderers.

This was a game that the Blues were expected to win after their fine 5-0 victory over Boreham Wood the previous Saturday, but Leytonstone needed to win, and it showed. Being a yard quicker in most departments, coupled with a superior workrate saw the home side on top for long stretches.

Thoroughly professional performances from Jim Wilsonham and Terry Hurlock up front, well supplied by Martin McCayna and Paul Powell from behind, as well as a fine game from John Jacobs in goal gave Wycombe no time to settle. An upset always looked possible after the first half-hour.

What chances Wanderers did have came in this first period. On four minutes Howard Kennedy from long range forced Jacobs to punch clear, and Tony Horseman sent the Leytonstone 'keeper full stretch with a free kick through the 'wall'.

But Wycombe's best chance fell to Derek Harris on the half-hour. From six yards out the Blues' striker blasted over the bar when a touch would have done. From that moment Leytonstone began to get on top.

The home side, who had only made occasional forays into the Wycombe half, began to use the width of the pitch, with full-back George Borg running well on the left, and together with Paul Powell giving Paul Birdseye a busy evening. Crosses began to come over and Alan Phillips and Keith Mead were tested in the heart of the Blues' defence.

BUSY KEEPER

Leytonstone were not afraid to shoot — often from a long way out — and Peter Spittle was the busier 'keeper.

In the second half Leytonstone increased the pressure and Powell in particular gave the Blues a good deal of trouble with long runs down the left and accurate balls through to his strikers.

Only isolated efforts were made at the other end, with Graham McKenzie going just wide with a long-range shot, and Horseman getting in a fine header. But Jacobs was equal to anything that Wycombe could produce.

The scoring opened on 56 minutes when McCayna, rock-solid in defence, turned to attack and sent a long ball through the centre for Hurlock to nip through a square defence. His shot, hard and high, from twelve yards gave Spittle little chance.

FREE KICK

Leytonstone nearly went further ahead five minutes later when John Priestley passed back and Wilsonham gained control only to lose it to the advancing Spittle.

The second goal, on 71 minutes, came from a Wilsonham free-kick into the Blues' penalty box. The unmarked Weights met it perfectly to score from five yards.

In the last quarter Wycombe's effort increased, but the Stones back four defended well, giving the Blues' striker no chance to shoot.

Leytonstone: Jacobs, Tilley, Borg, Clarke, McCayna, Smith, Powell, Massey, Hurlock, Wilsonham, Weights. Sub Lewzey (not used).

Wycombe: Spittle, Birdseye, Priestley, Mead, Phillips, Day, McKenzie, Kennedy, Harris, Holifield, Horseman. Sub R. Strong (not used).

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Enfield	32	26	4	2	75	21	82
Dagenham	35	20	6	9	69	46	66
Wycombe	32	19	5	8	54	30	62
Tooting & M	34	17	8	9	50	38	59
Croydon	36	16	9	11	56	45	57
Hitchin T	33	16	7	10	53	43	55
Hayes	36	15	9	12	45	45	54
Sutton U	32	15	7	10	50	45	52
Leatherhead	29	14	7	8	49	32	49
Barking	34	15	4	15	61	51	49
Carshalton A	35	13	10	12	53	52	49
Boreham W	34	13	7	14	45	58	48
Hendon	34	13	6	15	48	44	45
Staines T	36	11	12	13	42	52	45
Walthamstow	31	11	10	10	49	48	43
Slough T	35	12	6	17	43	85	42
Woking	32	10	8	14	45	48	38
Tilbury	35	8	11	16	42	58	35
Kingstonian	38	6	12	20	38	60	30
S'heil & EB	35	5	13	17	36	63	28
Leytonstone	38	4	14	20	38	69	28
Bishops S	34	5	7	22	30	68	22